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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

THE WALNUT SITUATION IN NORTH CHINA

Interest is reviving in walnuts in the shell in the Tientsin market, according to a cable received in the Foreign Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Consul W. Roderick Dorsey at Tientsin. It is believed that small shipments will be made during the coming sixty days. Local exporters are now offering walnuts in the shell at 7 to 7.5 cents per pound, c.i.f. American ports as compared with $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 cents per pound one month ago.

Stocks of walnut kernels on hand in Tientsin on December 3 were as heavy, if not slightly heavier, than at the end of November, when 1,300,000 pounds were available, according to Consul Dorsey. Prices of walnut kernels declined during the first part of December but recovered later. Current prices c.i.f. American ports for late January and early February shipments on stock containing 30 per cent halves, 35 per cent quarters and 35 per cent pieces, made up of 90 per cent light meats and 10 per cent ambers, were 22 cents per pound for dry cracked and 19 cents for wet cracked. These prices are slightly higher than those quoted for late December and early January shipments.

Exports of walnuts in the shell to the United States from Tientsin during December amounted to 100,000 pounds. Exports of walnut kernels amounted to 1,449,500 pounds, of which 1,400,000 were dry cracked and 49,500 pounds wet cracked. The c.i.f. prices on the shipments of walnuts in shell averaged $6\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound. The dry cracked shipments averaged $23\text{-}1\frac{1}{8}$ cents and the wet cracked $20\text{-}3\frac{3}{4}$ cents c.i.f. Pacific coast ports.

Exports of walnuts in the shell and walnut kernels from Tientsin to the United States during the first four months of 1927-28 and 1928-29 were as follows:

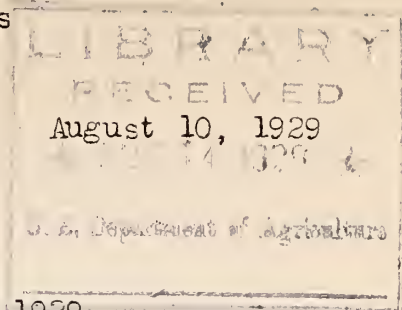
CHINESE WALNUTS: Exports from Tientsin to the United States

Season	In the shell	Kernels
	Pounds	Pounds
1928-29		
September	40,600	---
October	2,513,500	49,500
November	---	850,000
December	100,000	1,449,500
Total September to December	2,654,100	2,349,000
1927-28		
Total September to December	2,424,200	543,200

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FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS



THE BORDEAUX WALNUT CROP PROSPECTS FOR 1929

Prospects as a whole for the 1929 crop of walnuts in the Bordeaux region of France indicate a fairly good yield but not above the average, according to a report received in the Foreign Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Consul Lucien C. Memminger at Bordeaux. Opinions as to the anticipated yields by varieties vary to such an extent, however, that no definite estimate can be made at this time as to the size of the crop. In general the prospects for the walnut crop in all Departments belonging to the so called Bordeaux region are satisfactory except in some comparatively small areas, mainly those bordering on the Central Plateau. In all areas except in those referred to the walnut trees are in vigorous condition and the nuts are well developed. It is expected that the crop will reach maturity at a normal date, that is, early in October. No prediction can be made as yet in regard to the quality of the crop.

Weather conditions

The weather conditions have been favorable except during a few mornings at the beginning of May when frosts destroyed some of the sprouts on the trees growing in humid lands, and again during the first week of June when rains caused the fall of some of the young nuts. As a whole, however, losses from these two causes have not been extensive. Weather conditions recently have been excellent for the growing crop. The most serious damage to the crop as a whole, especially to the walnuts for cracking, occurred at the end of September, 1928. At that time the trees planted in the narrow valleys of the Dordogne and those in the Departments of the Central Plateau suffered greatly, many of the fruit bearing branches having been destroyed by freezing weather. As a result the foliage development on these trees was delayed in 1929 since they were obliged to sprout new branches of a secondary growth. These are expected to give only a small amount of fruit this season. Thus far this has been the only factor to curtail the large crop of walnuts for cracking that might otherwise have been expected.

Table walnuts

Most opinions agree that a large crop of "Cornes," table walnuts, may be expected this year. Trees bearing this variety are said to be in very good condition. As concerns "Marbots," however, opinions are more divided. Some firms state that prospects are good for a large crop while others state that it will be below the average. While the production of this variety will depend largely on atmospheric conditions between now and the beginning of the harvest it may be said that as far as table walnuts in general are concerned the 1929 crop will be decidedly more abundant than last year.

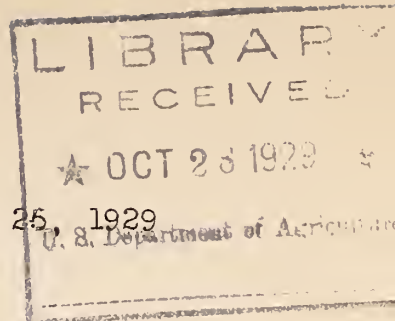
Walnuts for cracking

As regards walnuts for cracking the conditions as a whole are very irregular. Prospects in the Departments of Dordogne, Correze, Lot and Aveyron, are for a good average crop. In the Charente the trees in some spots are well laden and in others carry very little fruit. In this Department and in those of Inferieure, Deux-Sevres, Maine-et-Loire, and Allier, the crop will hardly be up to average. In the Departments of the Indre, Indre-et-Loire, Cher, Nievre, Yonne, Hautes-Pyrenees and Basses-Pyrenees, the crop of walnuts for cracking will no doubt be below the average.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington



F.S.
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October 25, 1929
U. S. Department of Agriculture

FOREIGN NEWS ON WALNUTS

FRENCH WALNUT CROP FOR 1929

The walnut harvest in France this year is a little later than in 1928 but with a continuation of the present (October 10) fine weather drying operations will be facilitated so that the nuts will be ready for shipment to the United States in ample time for the Thanksgiving trade, according to a report received in the Foreign Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Consul Lucien Memminger at Bordeaux. The total walnut crop in all of France for 1929 is placed at 830,000 bags of 110 pounds each. This is considered a normal crop in France.

The following tabulation represents the general opinion prevailing in trade circles at the present time as to the 1929 crop: -

Walnuts: Estimated production for 1929 1/

Variety	Quantity
	<u>Bags</u>
Cornea	90,000
Marbota	60,000
Grenoble	80,000
Other table varieties	100,000
Total table varieties	330,000
Shelling varieties	500,000
Grand total	830,000

1/ In bags of 110 pounds.

Table walnut crops

In regard to the two principal varieties of table walnuts produced in the Bordeaux district, i.e. Cornea and Marbota, it is stated that a good crop of "Cornea" is likely to be obtained but that a good proportion of the "Marbota" were defective and wormy and fell from the trees. The "Marbot" is an earlier bearing and thinner shelled variety and suffered from unfavorable weather conditions. A substantial amount of good quality

"Marbots" are now reaching maturity, however, and from 50,000 to 60,000 bags are expected to be available for export.

Walnuts for cracking

The estimate of 500,000 bags of walnuts for cracking purposes represents an average of the trade opinions at the present time. The crop of Chabertes which is included in this total is estimated at approximately 60,000 bags.

From tests that have been made the kernels appear to be fully developed and the quality of both table and cracking nuts is believed to be good. Very little interest had been shown by the United States up to October 10 for table nuts. As regards shelled nuts shipments were expected to begin before the end of October. Offers were being made to New York early in October on the basis of \$38.91 per 100 pounds, cost and freight.

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Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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★ NOV 1929

U. S. Department of Agriculture

November 2, 1929

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FOREIGN NEWS ON WALNUTS

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WALNUT SITUATION IN RUMANIA

A long hard winter which lasted until the end of March, as well as late spring frosts, seriously affected the 1929 walnut crop in Rumania and in spite of favorable conditions since the month of June the crop will hardly be more than about three-fourths of normal, according to a report received in the Foreign Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Consul J. R. Childs at Bucharest. The average production in normal years ranges from 16,500 to 17,600 short tons. Dealers claim that the 1929 crop will not exceed 8,800 short tons but Consul Childs is of the opinion that the crop will amount to at least 11,600 short tons. Dealers estimate that the crop last year amounted to only 11,500 short tons but Consul Childs states that this estimate should be increased to about 20,900 short tons.

The current season's crop benefitted considerably by the favorable weather prevailing since June and the nuts will be of good size and quality. The crop as a whole, however, will be below average in quantity. Reports indicate that the Bessarabia and Bukovino crop will only be about 50 per cent of normal. The crop in Moldova will be about 60 per cent of normal. The crop in Transylvania is practically negligible in some areas but in others it is about average so that a 50 per cent of normal crop is expected for the whole Province.

There are exceedingly wide differences between the official and unofficial estimates of walnut production in Rumania, states Consul Childs. The Rumanian Ministry of Agriculture on September 1, 1929, estimated the new crop at 51,380 short tons as compared with 90,620 short tons in 1928. However, exporters who have had long acquaintance with the walnut crop situation in Rumania are unanimous in contesting these figures of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Leading exporters state that there are no carryover stocks of 1928 walnuts. No important transactions are reported up to the middle of October in new crop nuts. The lack of foreign demand is explained by the reports of good crops in Italy and France. Producers feel that prices later on should be fairly satisfactory because of the short domestic crop this year and have indicated that they will hold back their walnuts as long as possible. Exports of walnuts from Rumania during 1928-29 (July to June) amounted to 31,997,000 pounds of nuts in the shell and 1,446,000 pounds of walnut meats. If the walnut meat exports are converted back to an "in shell" basis on the basis of 3 pounds of nuts in the shell to one pound of meats, total exports for 1928-29 amounted to the equivalent of 36,335,000 pounds of walnuts in the shell. Rumanian walnut exports to the United States during 1928-29 amounted to 4,139,000 pounds of walnuts in the shell and 622,000 pounds of walnut kernels. No inquiries have been made so far this season by American importers of walnuts, states Consul Childs.

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